

# *Community Resilience Partnership*

---

**Ashley Krulik**

*Community Resilience Partnership Program  
Manager*

**Casey Zorn**

*Lead by Example Project Coordinator*

**Brian Ambrette**

*Senior Climate Resilience Coordinator*

---



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF  
**Policy Innovation  
and the Future**

*September 26, 2024*

**CAG2024-5 Community Action Grant  
Informational Webinar**



# Today's Agenda

1. Maine's Climate Goals
2. Community Resilience Partnership overview
3. Community Action Grant overview
4. Questions



# CLIMATE COUNCIL GOALS



**12.01.24**

Updated Climate Action  
Plan Due



Achieve State Carbon  
Neutrality by

**2045**

REDUCE MAINE'S GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BY  
TARGETS OUTLINED IN STATE LAW

**45%**

BELOW 1990 LEVELS  
BY 2030

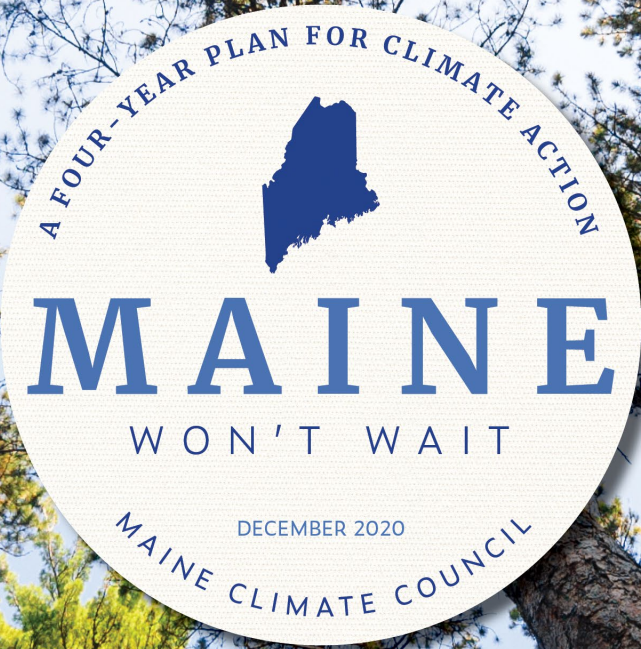
**80%**

BELOW 1990 LEVELS  
BY 2050



ENSURE MAINE PEOPLE, INDUSTRIES, AND COMMUNITIES ARE RESILIENT  
TO THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE.







# The Maine Climate Council has 8 Climate Strategies:

**1** —

Embrace the future of transportation in Maine



**2** —

Modernize Maine's buildings: energy-efficient, smart, and cost-effective homes and businesses



**3** —

Reduce carbon emissions in Maine's energy and industrial sectors through clean energy innovation



**4** —

Grow Maine's clean energy economy and protect our natural resource industries



**5** —

Protect Maine's environment and working lands and waters



**6** —

Build healthy and resilient communities



**7** —

Invest in climate-ready infrastructure



**8** —

Engage with Maine people and communities



# 2024 Plan Timeline

---



**DEC 1, 2020**

Maine Won't Wait Climate  
Action Plan Delivered to  
Legislature



**MAY 2023**

Governor Announces  
New and Returning  
Appointments to  
Climate Council



**SEPT 2023 - JUNE 2024**

Working Groups &  
Subcommittees Meet to Update  
Mitigation and Adaptation  
Strategies



**SEPT 2024**

Climate Council  
Meets to Consider and  
Adopt Strategies



**DEC 1, 2024**

Updated Climate  
Action Plan Delivered  
to Legislature

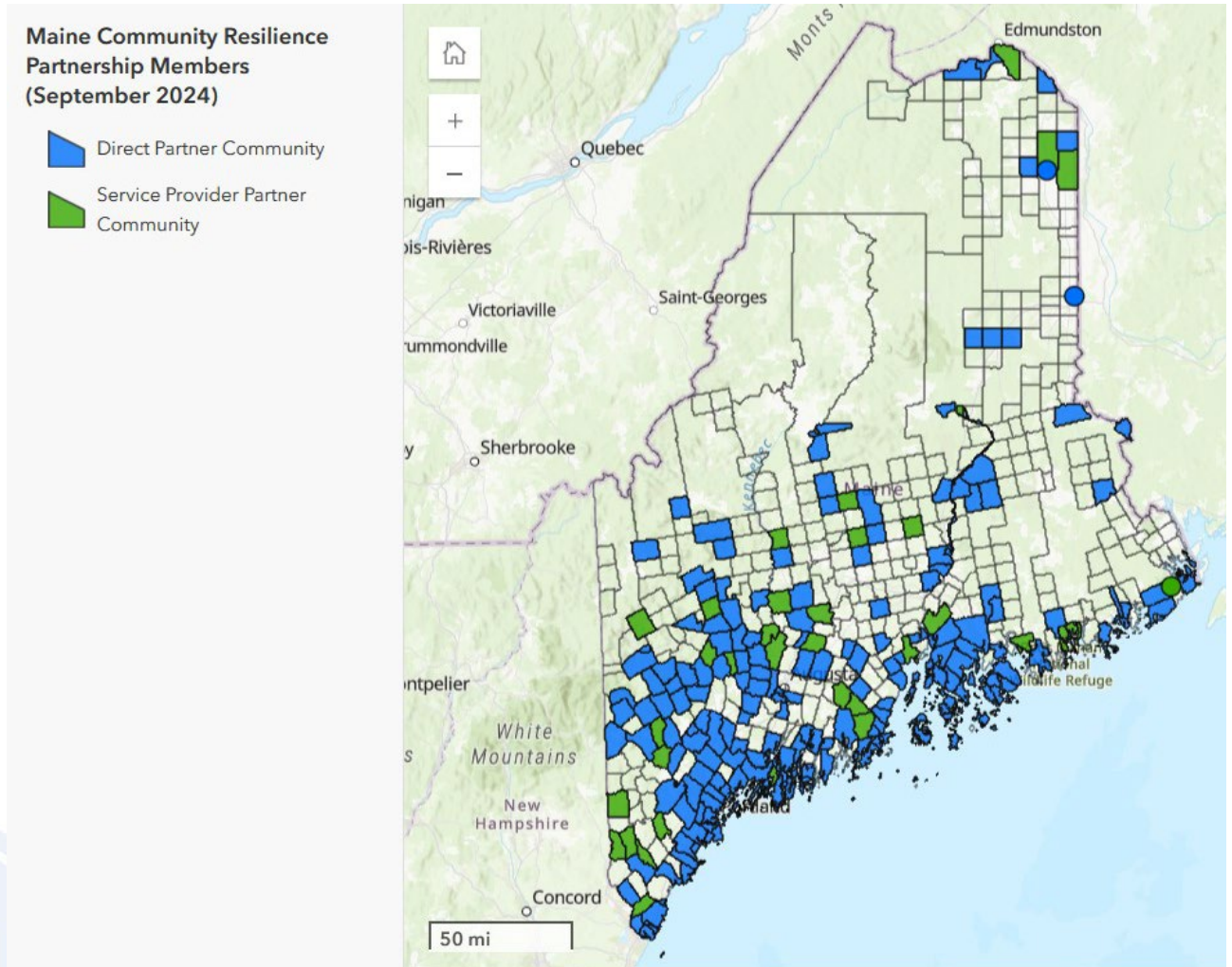
# Community Resilience Partnership

[www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership](http://www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership)

## Purpose

Through **grants and technical assistance**, the Community Resilience Partnership assists communities to:

- **reduce carbon emissions,**
- **transition to clean energy, and**
- **become more resilient** to climate change effects such as to extreme weather, flooding, rising sea levels, public health impacts, and more.



# Community Action and Service Provider Grant Funding Allocation

- **Grants to communities** for planning and implementation
  - \$7.48 million available for award this round; anticipating 90 to 100 awards
- **Grants to service provider organizations** to help communities get started and to complete vulnerability assessments
  - \$600,000 available for award this round
- A portion of this funding derives from federal sources and may carry additional federal requirements. Successful applicants will be notified if their award contains federal funding.



# Informational Webinars

There are three webinars about the Partnership's current grant opportunities. All webinars are recorded and posted to the Partnership website for replay.

- September 5 – **Energy Efficiency Planning for Rural Communities Technical Assistance** Informational Webinar - recording available.
- September 26, 10am – **Service Provider Grant** Informational Webinar
- September 26, 1pm – **Community Action Grant** Informational Webinar

Recordings accessible at: <https://www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership/grants>



# Community Action Grants

*Grants to communities for priority projects that reduce energy use and costs and/or make their community more resilient to climate change effects, such as flooding, extreme weather, drought, and public health impacts.*

## Intended outcomes:

- Emissions reductions and improved community resilience.
- Leveraging federal and other funds for larger projects.



# Community Action Grant Eligibility

## Eligibility

- **Municipalities and federally recognized tribes in Maine**
  - Townships, plantations, unorganized territories are eligible
  - Collaborative multi-community applications are encouraged
- **Currently enrolled or submitting an enrollment** form with Community Action Grant application
- **Regional planning organizations** (RPOs, COGs, EDOs, and EMAs) may apply **on behalf of enrolled communities** with letters of commitment
- Communities that already have an active Community Action Grant from a previous round are eligible to apply in this round but may not apply for new funds to support a previous scope of work.



# Community Action Grants - Option 1

## Two options

**Option 1: No-match grants** for one or more activities on the **List of 72 Community Actions** that align with Maine Won't Wait

Community Resilience Partnership					
List of Community Actions					
Revised September 2024					
See Instructions on Introduction tab and Example sheet.					
Complete	In Progress	No Progress	Strategy Areas & Actions (mark Columns A, B, C as complete, in progress, or no progress)		Additional Notes/Comments
Strategy Area A: Embrace the Future of Transportation					
Accelerate the Transition to Electric Vehicles (EVs)					
			Note: A maximum of \$7,500 of a Community Action Grant may be applied to the purchase of an electric vehicle for municipal or tribal fleets (Action A1). Eligible vehicles for Action A1 include light-duty, medium-duty, and heavy-duty on-road electric vehicles as well as electric riding mowers and electric outboard engines that are part of a municipal fleet, all subject to the maximum award amount. Where applicable, Efficiency Maine's electric vehicle rebate (Action A1) or EV charging rebate (Action A2) must be included in the applicant's project budget.		
			A1	Purchase or lease electric vehicles for municipal or tribal government-owned vehicle fleets.	
			A2	Install EV chargers in public parking areas.	
			A3	Adopt ordinances to encourage EV charging infrastructure, including at multifamily dwellings, businesses, and public parking areas.	
			A4	Adopt an anti-idling ordinance.	
Improve Mobility and Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)					
			A5	Implement strategies that increase public transit ridership and alternative transportation modes, including bike and walking infrastructure.	
			A6	Implement strategies that encourage municipal/tribal employees to commute via carpools, public transit, bike/walk, or other alternatives to single-occupancy vehicles.	
			A7	Adopt a telework policy for municipal/tribal government staff positions that can work remotely some days per week.	
			A8	Adopt land use and development policies in plans and codes that reduce the need for driving (e.g. locating schools, workplaces, and shopping near where people live; encouraging density of development near housing and transportation).	

# Community Action Grants - Option 2

**Option 2:** Grants for other community-identified climate priorities that support capacity building, planning, and implementation of clean energy, emissions reduction, and community resilience projects (local match required, in-kind allowed). Must identify relevant Maine Won't Wait strategy.

- 10% local match for Tier 1 and Tier 2 communities
- 20% local match for Tier 3 communities

## **Community Tiers**

- Tier 1 - Population below 4,000
- Tier 2 - Population between 4,000 and 10,000 or state tax assessment less than \$25 million
- Tier 3 - Population above 10,000 and state tax assessment over \$25 million



# Community Action Grant Awards

**Maximum award:** \$75,000 for individual communities and \$175,000 for multi-community proposals

**Grant Project Timeline:** 12 to 24 months

**Reporting:** All funded projects will be required to provide quarterly updates, project deliverables, and a brief project case study that communicates lessons learned.

- The applicant(s) should develop and track metrics, both for success of the project and progress toward long-term community goals.

# Community Action Grant – Community Engagement

## Approach to Community Engagement

- Applicants should describe actions that will be taken to include a diverse group of community stakeholders in the project during the grant period, including disadvantaged and more vulnerable community members.
  - This could include educational outreach around the community benefits of the project and *why* it's important to be taking these action(s).
- Approach to Community Engagement and Consideration of Equity make up a **third of the of Scope of Work score**



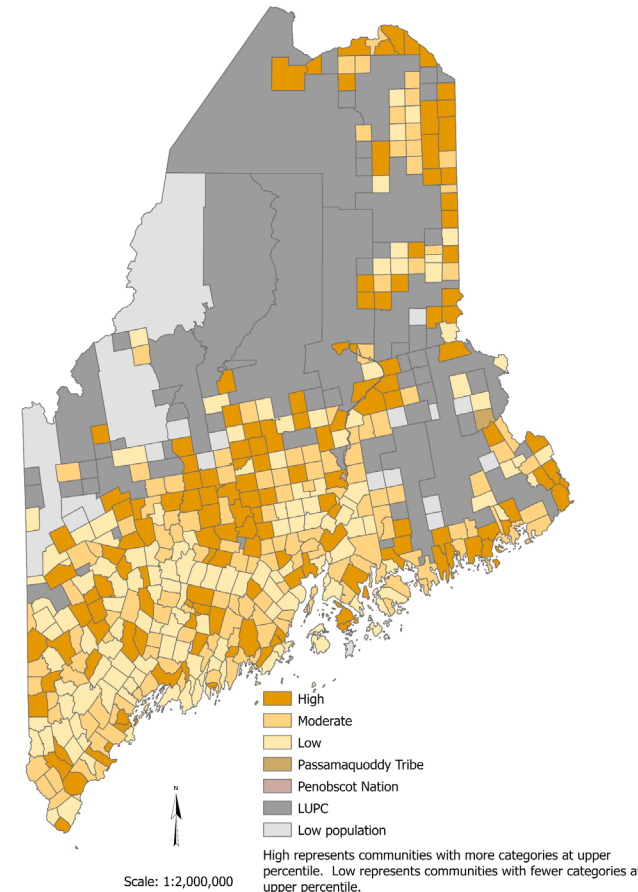
# Community Action Grants - Equity

## Consideration of Equity

- Maine's climate response must ensure shared benefits across diverse populations of Maine people.
  - *Who in your community should participate in this project and/or benefit from it?*
- Applicants should consider the potential benefits of their proposed climate action projects and, if applicable, describe how the project distributes those benefits equitably.

# Maine Social Vulnerability Index

- The MSVI is used by this grant program to understand socio-economic vulnerabilities that may be unique to a community.
- This Index was recently updated utilizing 2020 US Census data and new vulnerability indicators, resulting in changes in categorization for some communities.
- Applicants should reference the updated MSVI, linked in the Program Statement, to determine the current community vulnerability categorization.





# Information for this Grant Round

- **Increased max grant amounts:**
  - \$75,000 for individual community grants
  - \$175,000 for multi-community grants
- **State and Federal funding sources**
  - Additional funding available on top of the award for administration of grants funded using federal sources
- **Updated Maine Social Vulnerability Index**

# Applying to the Community Action Grant Program Statement

- **Application deadline: December 17, 2024, 5pm local time**
- Questions can be submitted to Ashley Krulik (ashley.krulik@maine.gov)
  - Responses will be posted to the Partnership website on a rolling basis until December 6, 2024
- Program Statement available at: <https://www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership/grants>
  - Program Statement contains the required application form.
  - Application form and any letters of support must be submitted as a package via the instructions in the Program Statement.
  - Email file size cannot exceed 20MB
- Award notifications anticipated approximately early March
- Grant start date will be around March 24, 2025

# Future Grant Round

The next Community Action Grant round is expected to occur in the **Summer 2025 (Round 6)**: This round will be open to all enrolled communities.



# Enrolling in the Partnership

1. **Pass a municipal resolution or obtain a letter from a tribal chief or UT supervisor** committing to participate
  - Model language provided
2. **Complete two self-assessments**
  - List of Community Actions – completed actions
  - Community Resilience Self-evaluation
3. **Hold a community workshop** and set priority action items
4. **Submit enrollment materials** through the online form
5. **Reenrollment** every two years.

Rolling enrollment – no deadlines.

Need help? Service Provider Grants are available.

Community Resilience Partnership

Program Contact: Brian Ambrette  
brian.ambrette@maine.gov  
[Community Resilience Partnership | Office of Policy Innovation & Future \(maine.gov\)](#)

---

**Community Resilience Self-Evaluation**

**Instructions:** This tool is intended to help organize your community's approach to increasing resilience to natural hazards and climate change impacts. Answer the questions to the best of your knowledge and seek information from your colleagues in municipal and county government and organizations in your community. Provide any relevant information in the explanation field. If it is difficult to give a clear yes or no response to a question, use the explanation field to explain why. **There are no wrong answers and the responses here will not affect your community's eligibility to receive grants.** Where the response to a question is no, that may indicate an area of opportunity to address through a Community Action Grant.

Community name:	
Self-Evaluation responses provided by: Please include contact info	
Date:	
Was this e communit of the wor	

Once the q  
steps for yo

Community Resilience Partnership				
List of Community Actions				
Revised September 2024				
See Instructions on Introduction tab and Example sheet.				
Complete	In Progress	No Progress	Strategy Areas & Actions (mark Columns A, B, C as complete, in progress, or no progress)	Additional Notes/Comments
<b>Strategy Area A: Embrace the Future of Transportation</b>				
Accelerate the Transition to Electric Vehicles (EVs)				
<b>Note: A maximum of \$7,500 of a Community Action Grant may be applied to the purchase of an electric vehicle for municipal or tribal fleets (Action A1). Eligible vehicles for Action A1 include light-duty, medium-duty, and heavy-duty on-road electric vehicles as well as electric riding mowers and electric outboard engines that are part of a municipal fleet, all subject to the maximum award amount. Where applicable, Efficiency Maine's electric vehicle rebate (Action A1) or EV charging rebate (Action A2) must be included in the applicant's project budget.</b>				
			A1 Purchase or lease electric vehicles for municipal or tribal government-owned vehicle fleets.	
			A2 Install EV chargers in public parking areas.	
			A3 Adopt ordinances to encourage EV charging infrastructure, including at multifamily dwellings, businesses, and public parking areas.	
			A4 Adopt an anti-idling ordinance.	
Improve Mobility and Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)				
			A5 Implement strategies that increase public transit ridership and alternative transportation modes, including bike and walking infrastructure.	
			A6 Implement strategies that encourage municipal/tribal employees to commute via carpools, public transit, bike/walk, or other alternatives to single-occupancy vehicles.	
			A7 Adopt a telework policy for municipal/tribal government staff positions that can work remotely some days per week.	
			A8 Adopt land use and development policies in plans and codes that reduce the need for driving (e.g. locating schools, workplaces, and shopping near where people live; encouraging density of development near housing and	

Revised Dec

# Service Provider Grants

Service Provider Grants support organizations to assist communities with climate action, energy and resilience planning.

- In Fall 2024, a new grant opportunity is being offered for Service Providers. There are now two Service Provider Grant Tracks:
  - **Track 1** Community Enrollment Service Provider Grants
  - **Track 2** Community Vulnerability Assessment Service Provider Grants to complete community vulnerability assessments
- A Community may participate in applications for both a Community Action Grant and a Track 2 Community Vulnerability Assessment Grant but may only participate in one (1) application per grant opportunity.

# Energy Efficiency Planning for Rural Communities

**One-time technical assistance** offering through the Community Resilience Partnership. The purpose of the EEPRC program is to support Maine communities with energy efficiency planning for publicly owned buildings through energy audits, energy benchmarking trainings and support, and energy conservation plans.

- Participating communities will receive technical assistance services as outlined in the Program Statement at NO COST to the communities.
- Application Deadline: October 4, 2024, 5 p.m.
- Info webinar recording and more information at <https://www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership/grants>



# Tips for a Strong Application

- Clearly defined project tasks, deliverables, outcomes, roles and responsibilities, and timeline
- Community engagement throughout the duration of the project
- Description of how the project will benefit the community
- Accurate budget that includes vendor estimates and Efficiency Maine incentives if applicable

# Website and Contact

[www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership](http://www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership)

- Joining the Partnership
- Links to the grant applications
- Frequently Asked Questions

**Ashley Krulik**

Community Resilience Partnership Program Manager  
[ashley.krulik@maine.gov](mailto:ashley.krulik@maine.gov)

**Casey Zorn**

Lead-By-Example Climate Policy Analyst  
[casey.zorn@maine.gov](mailto:casey.zorn@maine.gov)

**Brian Ambrette**

Senior Climate Resilience Coordinator  
[brian.ambrette@maine.gov](mailto:brian.ambrette@maine.gov)

State of Maine  
Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future

Home About Us Top Initiatives Meeting Calendar Contact Us

Search GOM SEARCH

## Community Resilience Partnership

Working to help Maine communities reduce emissions and prepare for the effects of climate change.

**NEW GRANT OPPORTUNITIES**  
"NOW POSTED"

**COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PARTNERSHIP**

Through grants and direct support to municipal and tribal governments and unorganized territories, the Community Resilience Partnership assists communities to reduce carbon emissions, transition to clean energy, and become more resilient to climate change effects such as extreme storms, flooding, rising sea levels, public health impacts, and more.

[See our Partner communities and where grants are at work across Maine.](#)

**Hear from Partnership communities in our video:**

**SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITIES**  
Communities in Maine can join the Partnership individually, or through a regional group, after

**GRANT & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**  
Grants are available for communities to pursue climate action and for regional service providers to assist

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**  
For more about community resilience and details of the Partnership, please visit our FAQs.

# Questions

Please put questions into the chat



# Thank You

[www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership](http://www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership)

